



Virginia Roanoke River Basin Advisory Committee



Virginia Roanoke River Basin Advisory Committee (VRRBAC)



VRRBAC FOUNDING HISTORY

- HJR 149 Passed House and Senate in 2000
- William (Ted) Bennet, Jr. was Chief patron
- Ward L. Armstrong, Kathy J. Byron, Whittington W. Clement, C. Richard Cranwell, Frank M. Ruff, Clifton A. (Chip) Woodrum, Charles R. Hawkins, and W. Roscoe Reynolds were patrons



N. F. Roanoke River

HJR 149

Recognized the Roanoke River as a great resource for the Commonwealth and Basin localities

Noted Problems:

- Drought
- Transfer of large quantities of water to other regions
- PCB sediment contamination
- VDH fish consumption health advisory (PCB's)



S. F. Roanoke River

HJR 149(continued)

- Cited the importance of cooperation between the local governments for the economic vitality and appropriate development of the region
- Suggested that action was needed to ensure the adequacy of water resources to meet economic development and water conservation needs
- Promoted greater citizen involvement and participation in water quality and quantity issues
- Encouraged basin-wide regional cooperation

HJR 149(continued)

- Stressed that each basin locality needed to cooperate in establishing a framework to coordinate the management of water resources
- Directed the State Water Commission to study the desirability and feasibility of establishing an intergovernmental structure to facilitate the planning and coordination of water resources in the Roanoke River Basin



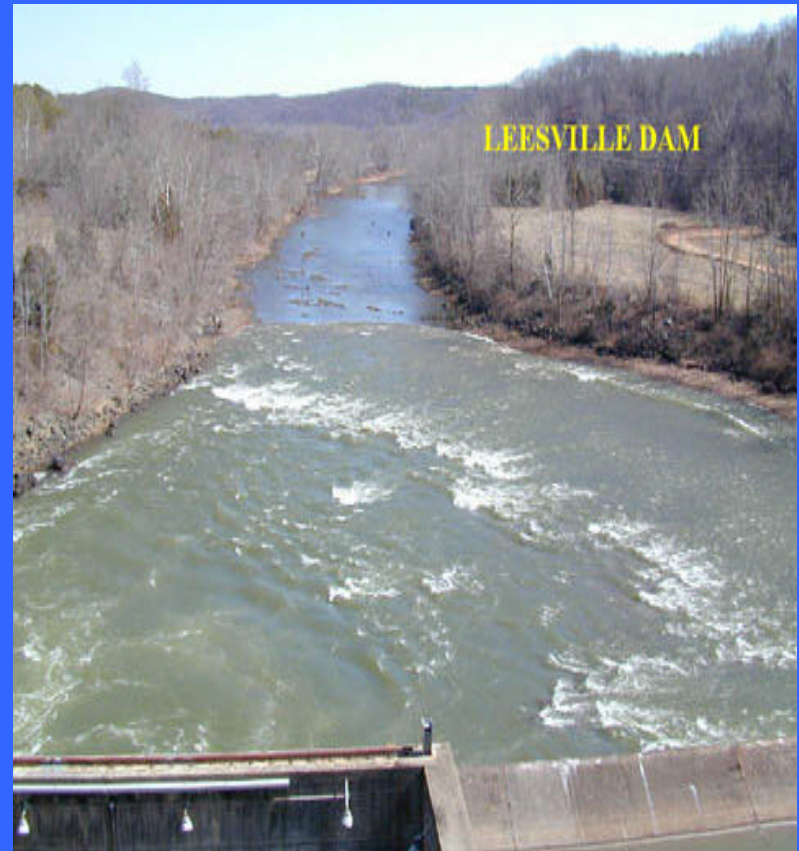
ROANOKE RIVER - SALEM

State Water Commission (SWC) Action

- Established a Sub-committee to conduct the study
- Senator Charles Hawkins - Chair
- Sub-committee believed the public and all interested parties should be involved in determining the role and structure of the advisory body.
- Senator Hawkins appointed 13 citizen members to an advisory panel to examine whether a basin-wide entity should be created to advise state officials on the management of water resources in the Roanoke River Basin

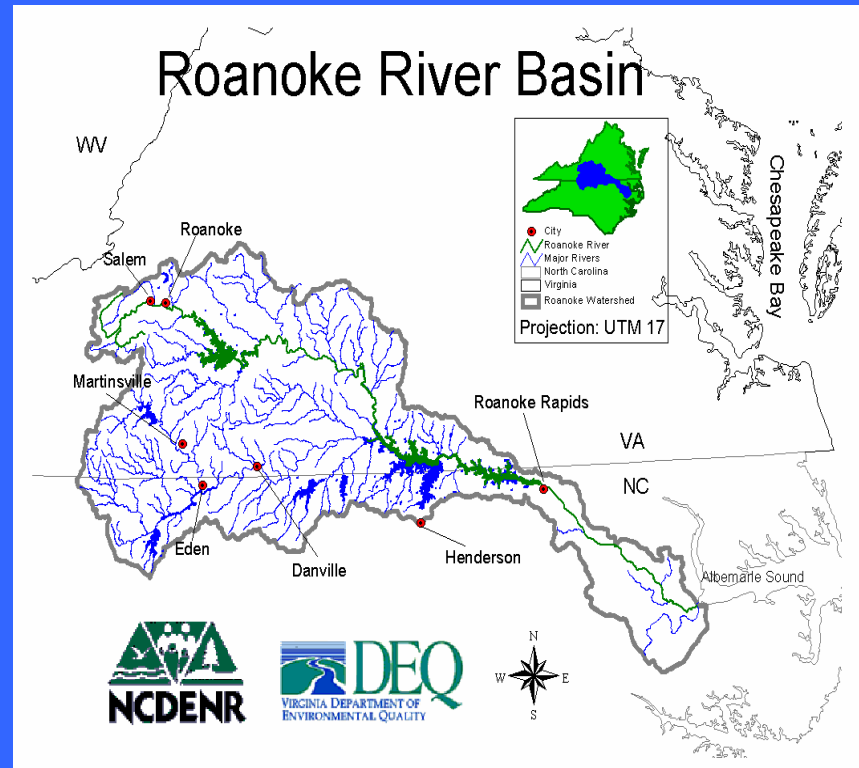
State Water Commission Action (continued)

- Shelton Miles - Chair of the advisory panel
- Russell Slayton - Vice-chair
- Other members were W. Ewell Barr, Bobby Conner, Robert Dowd, Greg Godard, Jerry Lovelace, Hudson Reese, Richard Seekins, Jim Spitz, Mike Thacker, Russell Vaughn, and Jane Hogan



SWC Advisory Panel Public Hearings

- Brookneal (Naruna) - July 19, 2001
- Williamston, NC - July 24, 2001
- Roanoke Rapids (Weldon), NC - July 26, 2001
- Roanoke - July 26, 2001
- Collinsville - August 2, 2001
- Kerr Dam - August 2, 2001



SWC Advisory Panel Public Hearings

To receive comment on the following questions:

- Should a permanent advisory commission be established to facilitate the planning and coordination of water resources in the Roanoke River Basin?
- What should be the purpose and authority of that commission?
- How should the membership be constituted, i.e., number of members, selection process, and qualifications?

SWC Advisory Panel Recommendations

- Immediate creation of a Roanoke River Basin Commission
- A list of purposes of the Roanoke River Basin Commission
- 14 members to include 11 appointed by the PDC's, 1 Senator, 1 delegate, and 1 U.S. Representative. Other legislators would be “ex officio” members
- The establishment of a Virginia Commission should not be conditioned on the creation of a bi-state commission with NC

Danville Meeting - December 17, 2001

- Co-sponsored by Western Virginia Impact, the URR Roundtable and the Roanoke River Basin Association
- Virginia State Sen. Charles Hawkins and North Carolina State Rep. James Crawford co-chaired the two-hour meeting.
- Attended by VA & NC legislators, regulatory and local government officials, conservation groups, representatives and private citizens.
- Consensus developed on the following key points:
 - A single, bi-state commission is favored over separate commissions in each state
 - The commission would have eighteen (18) voting members, nine from Virginia and nine from North Carolina

Danville Meeting - December 17, 2001

- Virginia's members would be selected as follows: one (1) each by the Governor, Senate and House of Delegates; and six (6) by Virginia's PDC's in the Roanoke River Basin
- All Virginia's federal and state legislators in the basin would have ex-officio membership
- North Carolina would decide how to select its nine (9) commission members and ex-officio members
- Funding and staff would be shared equally by Virginia and North Carolina.

State Water Commission Recommendations

SWC considered the 2 different proposals and made the following recommendations:

- That the 2002 Session enact legislation establishing the Virginia Roanoke River Basin Commission and the Virginia-North Carolina Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission
- Endorsed in concept the provisions contained in SB 460 and SB 553 listed as Appendices D and E in the Report of the State Water Commission (HD 4, 2003)

2002 VRRBAC

- Established as an advisory committee to the Virginia Delegation of the Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission
- The purpose is to assist the delegation in fulfilling the duties and objectives of the Bi-State Commission
- 18 Members; 2 State Senators, 4 State Delegates, 1 U.S. Representative, and 11 Citizen Members, nominated by the PDC's and selected by the Legislative Members
- NC representatives, if appointed, would be “ex officio”
- Chairman and Vice-chairman to be elected from members

2002 Legislative Members

- U. S. Representative Virgil Goode (5th District)
- Senators Charles Hawkins and Frank Ruff, Jr.
- Delegates Kathy J. Byron, Robert Hurt, Vic Thomas, and Thomas C. Wright, Jr.



VA Scenic River - Staunton River from Long Island to Rt. 360 Bridge

PDC Citizen Members

- Central Virginia (2) - Watt R. Foster & Ken Dugan
- New River (1) - Evelyn Janney
- Piedmont (2) - Read Charlton & Haywood Hamlet
- Roanoke Valley Alleghany (2) - Mike McEvoy & Lee Eddy
- Southside (2) - John D. Feild & Robert H. Conner
- West Piedmont (2) - Charles Poindexter and John Primiano

VRRBAC Officers and Citizen Representatives to RRBBC

VRRBAC Officers:

Chairman - John Feild

Vice-chairman - Mike McEvoy
and Charles Poindexter

RRBBC Citizen Representatives:

Watt Foster

Haywood Hamlet

Mike McEvoy



Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission (RRBBC)

Purpose:

1. Provide guidance, conduct joint meetings, and make recommendations to local, state and federal legislative and administrative bodies, and to others as it deems necessary and appropriate, regarding the use, stewardship, and enhancement of the Basin's water and other natural resources
2. Provide a forum for discussion of issues affecting the Basin's water quantity, water quality, and other natural resources

Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission

Purpose:

3. Promote communication, coordination and education among stakeholders within the Basin;
4. Identify Basin-related problems and recommend appropriate solutions
5. Undertake studies and prepare, publish, and disseminate information through reports, and other communications, related to water quantity, water quality and other natural resources of the Basin.

Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission

- 18 Voting Members - 9 each from VA and NC
- Virginia Delegation - 6 State Legislative members of VRRBAC and 3 Citizen Members appointed by the Governor (2 year terms)
- NC Delegation as determined by NC is 6 GA members and 3 Citizens
- VA and NC legislators not appointed to the Commission are “ex officio” members
- Each state’s delegation may meet separately to discuss Basin related issues affecting their state and report their findings independently of the Commission

Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission

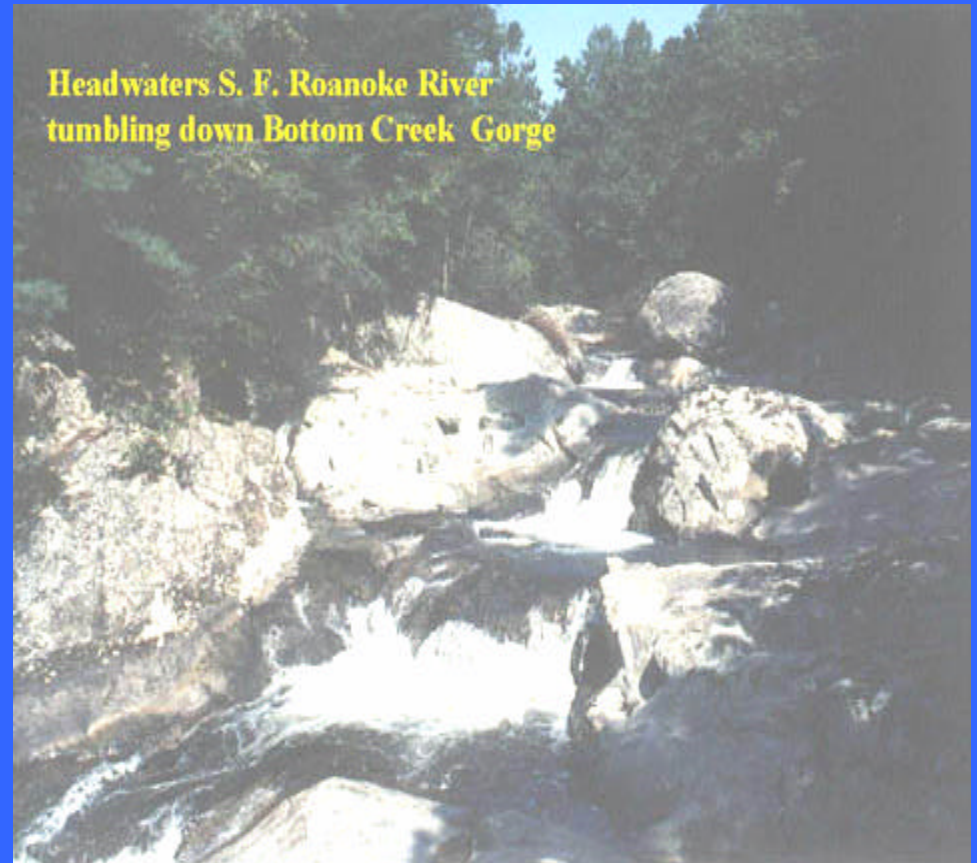
Powers and Duties:

- Has no regulatory power
- Develop rules and procedures for conducting business
- Establish standing and ad hoc committees which ensure balance between interests
- Raise Funds
- Establish a non-profit corporation
- Enter into contracts and execute all instruments necessary or appropriate
- Perform any lawful acts necessary or appropriate

Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission

Standing Committees:

- Permit holders
- Roanoke River Basin interest groups
- Public officials and government entities
- Agriculture, forestry and soil and water conservation districts

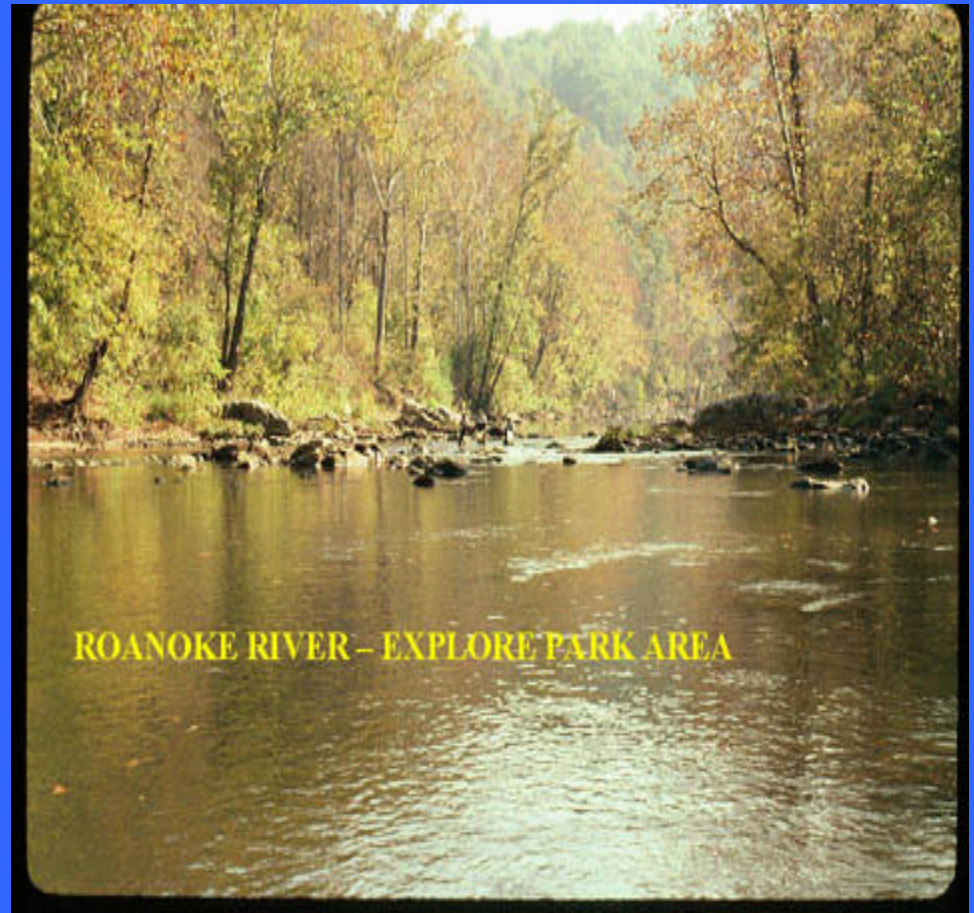


Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission

Funding:

- Annual Budget
- Shared and apportioned between VA and NC
- VA Roanoke Basin PDC's shall bear a proportion of the expense, which may be in-kind contributions

The Commission shall delegate a fiscal agent



2004 VRRBAC Membership

23 Total Members:

- 2 State Senators, 4 State Delegates, 1 U.S. Representative
- 11 Citizen Members, nominated by the PDC's and selected by the Legislative Members
- 2 Citizen Members “at-large” one each appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules and the Speaker of the House of Delegates
- 3 Members from NC as appointed by NC
- VA legislative, U.S. Representative, and NC members are “ex officio”, without voting privileges
- Quorum is majority of voting members (7) (6 at present)

2004 Legislative Members

- U. S. Representative Virgil Goode (5th District)
- Senators Charles Hawkins and Frank Ruff, Jr.
- Delegates Kathy J. Byron, Robert Hurt, Onzlee Ware, and Thomas C. Wright, Jr.



Citizen Members

- Central Virginia (2) - Watt R. Foster & Vacant Seat
- New River (1) - Evelyn Janney
- Piedmont (2) - Read Charlton & Haywood Hamlet
- Roanoke Valley Alleghany (2) - Mike McEvoy & Vacant Seat
- Southside (2) - John D. Feild & Robert H. Conner
- West Piedmont (2) - Charles Poindexter and George Stovall
- At - Large (2) - John Lindsey & Vacant Seat

VRRBAC Terms of Service

Legislative Members: Terms coincident with term in office.

PDC Appointed Citizen Members: PDC's eligible for 2 appointments will appoint one for 1 year and another for 2 years. The PDC eligible for 1 appointment will appoint for 1 year. After initial staggering of terms appointments will be for 2 years.

At - Large Citizen Members: 2 years

NC Members: 2 years

Citizen Members: Eligible for reappointment if they attend 1/2 of meetings during term of service. Eligible for 3 consecutive 2 year appointments.

VRRBAC Sub-committees

Agriculture and Forestry: Haywood Hamlet – Chairman, Evelyn Janney - Vice-Chairman, and Robert Conner.

Lake Interests: Robert Conner – Chairman, Charles Poindexter - Vice-Chairman, John Feild, Watt Foster, and Jean McCarter.

Municipal Interests and Permit Holders: Mike McEvoy - Chairman, Read Charlton, and William Johnson.

River Interests: Watt Foster – Chairman, Read Charlton - Vice-Chairman, Bud LaRoche, Pamela Kent Pettus, Maureen Castern, J. T. Davis, Jerry Lovelace, and Tom Stutts.

Water: Mike McEvoy – Chairman, Robert Conner – Vice-Chairman, and William Johnson.

VRRBAC Meeting Locations

- Blacksburg
- Brookneal
- Chatham
- Clarksville (2)
- Danville
- Ebony
- Moneta
- Richmond (2)
- Roanoke
- South Boston



Topics and Issues

Funding of VRRBAC Activities: A mechanism for funding exists but depends upon appropriations to DEQ, which have not been made.

Importance of Natural Resources to the Economic Vitality of the Basin: People reside in and come to the Roanoke River Basin area to pursue various interests including vacation, lifestyle, esthetics, boating, fishing, etc. These activities and personal values help drive the economic engine of the local and regional area. Clean water and ample flow and supply are recognized as essential to existing beneficial uses and future economic growth. In addition, the importance of agriculture to our lifestyle and economy should be noted.

Topics and Issues

Inter-basin Transfer of Water: There is great concern that other large urban areas are looking at the Roanoke Basin as a source of water. Greensboro and the NC Triangle area have apparently studied the Roanoke Basin for this purpose.

Water Withdrawals: There are proposed water withdrawals from the Dan River sub-basin at Milton and Eden. There is concern about the impacts on the river system and neighboring communities.

Granville County, NC may be able to purchase the water intake/rights of the Burlington Plant in Clarksville. This could directly impact the Clarksville area.

Topics and Issues

Regulation of Flow and Storage:

- Flow events in one section of the basin can effect other parts.
- Drought/low flow conditions impact beneficial uses of the water and must be defined to aid the planning process.
- Increased storage has been discussed as an option to consider for future planning purposes.

Basin-wide Dialogue: A goal of the Committee is to open channels of communication. It is important that dialogue is representative of all areas of the basin. There must be rural and urban cooperation on water issues.

Topics and Issues

Policy and Planning:

- Followed the State Water Policy development and Robert Conner has represented VRRBAC on the Technical Advisory Committee.
- The Committee has been granted representation on the John H. Kerr 216 Sponsors Advisory Committee.
- Charles Poindexter is involved with the FERC re-licensing effort and Shoreline Management Plan development at Smith Mt. Lake.
- Other pertinent planning issues include the importance of defining low flow conditions, local control of land use decisions, public river access for recreation and fishing, flooding, storm water management, and water reuse.

Topics and Issues

Invasive Species: Discussed issues regarding Hydrilla and other invasive species such as Zebra mussels. The Lake sub-committee received public questions about the lack of funding to control Hydrilla at Lake Gaston and the effectiveness of treatment.

Recreation and Fishing: Concerns have been expressed to the committee about the striped bass and other fisheries. The importance of fishing and other water sports to the economic health of the region is noted.

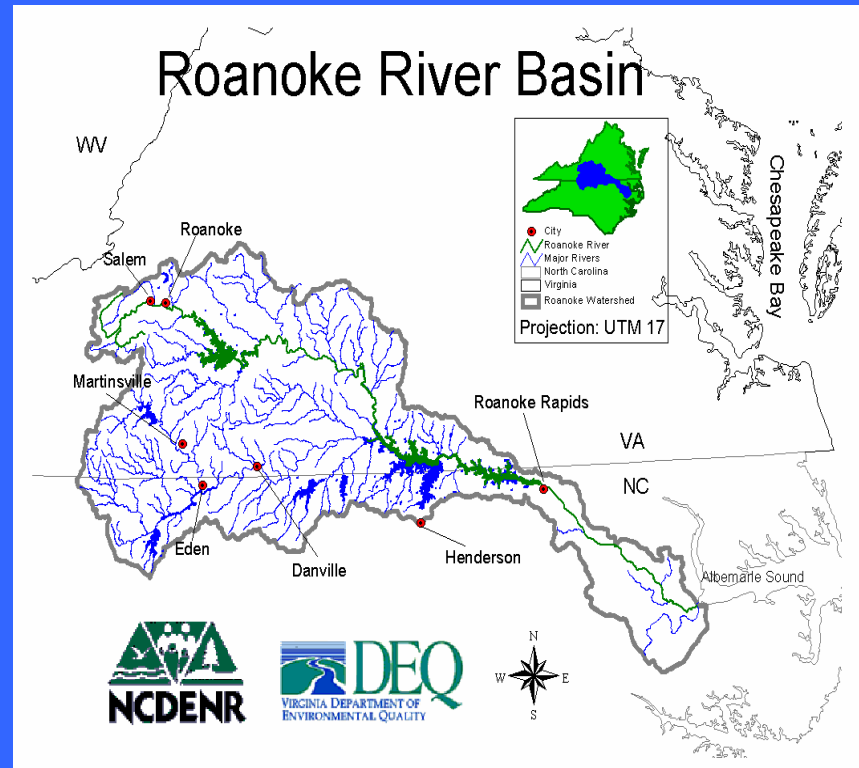
Topics and Issues


Water Quality:

- The generally good water quality of the Roanoke basin is valued and recognized as a characteristic that must be preserved.
- Discussed Animal waste regulations, the Virginia Water Protection Permit Program, TMDLs, Low Impact Development (LID) Techniques, Best Management Practices (BMPs) for agriculture and urban development, Biological Source Tracking (BST), Nutrient Management Plans, Biosolids, and the impact of air pollution on water quality.
- Water reuse and desalination were also topics of discussion.

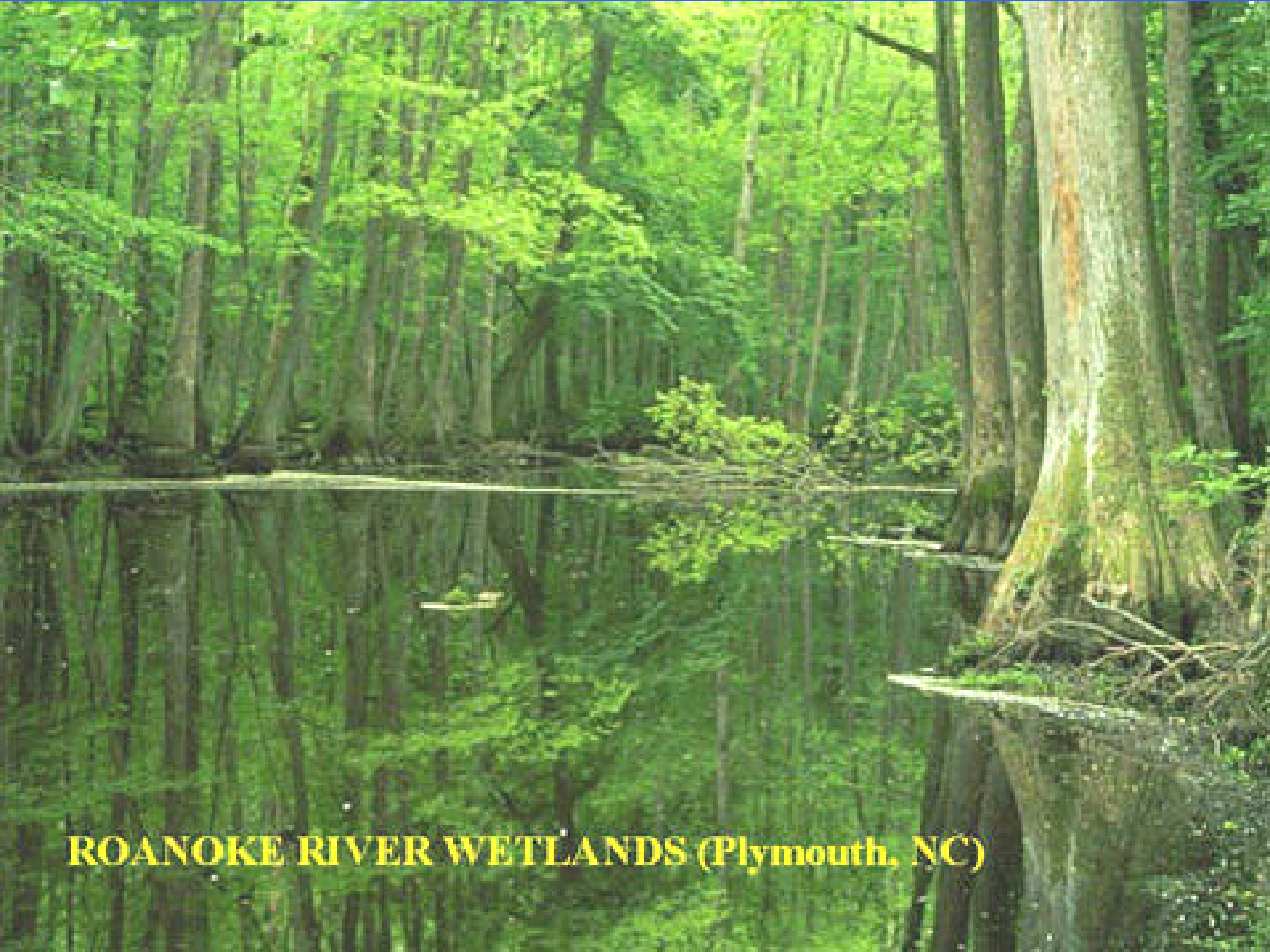
General Basin Statistics

- Drainage Area: 9,826 sq. mi.
- Virginia: 6,298 sq. mi. (64%)
- North Carolina: 3,528 sq. mi. (36%)
- 16% of the Commonwealth's total land area
- Virginia Stream Miles: 9,504
- Virginia Lakes: 97,910 acres



A wide-angle photograph of a large, calm reservoir surrounded by forested hills. In the distance, a long dam spans the width of the water body. The sky is overcast and hazy. The water reflects the surrounding landscape and the sky. The text is overlaid in the bottom left corner.

**ROANOKE COUNTY -
SPRING HOLLOW RESERVOIR (130 ACRES)**



ROANOKE RIVER WETLANDS (Plymouth, NC)



VIRGINIA SCENIC RIVER - Long Island to Rt. 360 Bridge